

### Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A flag lock comprising ~~an approximately~~ a flat plate that has a middle section between two larger end sections.
2. (Original) A flag lock according to Claim 1 that is symmetrical about an axis that passes through said middle section and said end sections.
3. (Original) A flag lock according to Claim 1 that is symmetrical about a first axis that passes through the center of said middle section and is at 90° to a second axis that passes through the center of said end sections.
4. (Currently amended) A flag lock according to Claim 3 wherein ~~the periphery of said end sections lies on the circumference of a circle centered at the intersection of said first axis and said second axis~~ said flag lock comprises a flat plate in the shape of a circle having opposing notches removed, where the sides of said notches extend in a line from the periphery of said circle inwardly towards the center of said circle.
5. (Original) A flag lock according to Claim 1 made of plastic.
6. (Original) A flag lock according to Claim 1 made of a rust-resistant metal.
7. (Currently amended) A method of displaying from the halyard of a flagpole a flag having at least one eyelet with an aperture therethrough, comprising passing a loop of said halyard through ~~an~~ said aperture and over the middle section of a flag lock according to Claim 1, where the end section of said flag lock can not pass through said aperture.
8. (Original) A flag display comprising

- (A) a flag having at least one eyelet with an aperture therethrough;
- (B) a flag lock according to Claim 1 that has end sections that can not pass through said aperture; and
- (C) a halyard, a loop of which passes through said aperture and over the middle section of said flag lock.

9. (Original) A flag display according to Claim 8 wherein said flag lock is symmetrical about a first axis that passes through the center of said middle section and said end sections and that is symmetrical about a second axis at 90° to said first axis that passes through the center of said middle section.

10. (Original) A flag display according to Claim 9 wherein the periphery of said end sections lies on the circumference of a circle centered at the intersection of said first axis and said second axis.

11. (Original) A flag display according to Claim 8 wherein said flag lock is made of plastic.

12. (Original) A flag display according to Claim 8 wherein said flag lock is made of a rust-resistant metal.

13. (Currently amended) A flag display according to Claim 8 wherein said apertures are about 3/8 to about one inch in diameter and the end portions of said flag lock are preferably about 1/8 to about 1/4 inches larger than will fit through said apertures.

14. (Currently amended) A flag lock comprising ~~an approximately~~ a flat plate that comprises a middle section between two larger end sections, where said flag lock (1) is

symmetrical about a first axis that passes through said middle section and said end sections and (2) is symmetrical about a second axis at 90° to said first axis that passes through the center of said middle section.

15. (Original) A flag lock according to Claim 14 wherein the periphery of said end sections lies on the circumference of a circle centered at the intersection of said first axis and said second axis.

16. (Original) A flag lock according to Claim 14 made of plastic.

17. (Original) A flag display according to Claim 14 made of a rust-resistant metal.

18. (Currently amended) A flag display comprising

(A) a flag having at one end two eyelets each with an aperture therethrough;

(B) a flag lock according to Claim 15 14 for each eyelet, said flag locks having end sections that can not pass through said apertures; and

(C) a halyard, a loop of which passes through said aperture and over the middle section of said flag lock.

19. (Original) A flag lock comprising a flat rust-resistant plate ~~that has a middle section between two larger end sections, where said flag lock (1) is symmetrical about a first axis that passes through said middle section and said end sections and (2) is symmetrical about a second axis at 90° to said first axis that passes through the center of said middle section, and the periphery of said end sections lies on the circumference of a circle centered at the intersection of said first axis and said second axis in the shape of a circle having opposing notches removed, where the sides of said notches~~

extend in a line from the periphery of said circle inwardly towards the center of said circle.

20. (Original) A flag display comprising

- (A) a flag having at one end two eyelets each with an aperture therethrough;
- (B) a flag lock according to Claim 19 for each eyelet, said flag locks having end sections that can not pass through said apertures; and
- (C) a halyard, a loop of which passes through said aperture and over the middle section of said flag lock.